LASCA NEWS

A periodic report from the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum to the members of the California Arboretum Foundation, Inc. Arcadia, California

March 1956

Dear Members:

Spring Again - Through the ages this time of year has been meant for beginning. It is the season when Mother Earth begins to bear. This is so true at the Arboretum where 125 different species of acacia, flowering peach and purple plum trees are bursting forth in all their beauty.

The South African section is very attractive with numerous varieties of wild Gladiolus in bloom as well as some of the various daisies. The Blue African Daisy or Felicia, which is particularly showy, is one of Mr. Quinn Buck's development after use of the Colchicine treatment on some of the seeds. It may be available next year as a new introduction for Southern California gardeners.

This is all conducive to a serious attack of Spring Fever - - but on with LASCA NEWS.

Dr. Frits Went has been on a lecture tour since Feb. 20th at the following locations: University of Oregon, Montana State University, Colorado A. & M., South Dakota State College, Abbott Laboratories Club, Chicago; University of Notre Dame at South Bend. He expects to return on March 29th.

Dr. Wm. S. Stewart, our Director, has been on a flying two-week trip to: The Morton Arboretum; Garfield Conservatory; Longwood Gardens, now headed by our former Director, Dr. Seibert; National Arboretum, Washington, D.C.; Historical Restoration of Williamsburg, Richmond; Morris Arboretum, Philadelphia; the Philadelphia Museum; New York Botanical Garden; The Brooklyn Botanic Garden; The Arnold Arboretum at Harvard University; New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University; Department of Horticulture, Michigan State University; and the Missouri Botanical Garden at St. Louis.

Mr. Lovell Swisher, an outstanding horticultural enthusiast, has been elected to the Board of Trustees of the California Arboretum Foundation. Mr. Swisher will be a most welcome addition to our governing Board.

Dedication of the new Gatehouse and Administration buildings is planned for the last half of July. Building progress is favorable in spite of the storm in February, with construction running only about twelve days behind schedule. The contractors expect to be able to make up this time.

The late Dr. George P. Lux willed his property, consisting of 154 acres near Monrovia, to the State and County for Arboretum and recreational purposes and when the necessary legal detail is cleared by the State and County, this property will become a part of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum.

Through Mr. Robert Casamajor, a member of our Board of Trustees, the Foundation received an outstanding orchid col-

lection from Mr. Arthur Freed. This collection of more than 1000 plants, appraised at $22,000, is a great addition to the Arboretum. Now ways and means must be forthcoming through donations, bequests or a membership drive to build a proper home for the orchids. Any suggestions?

Among the gifts to the Historical Committee was one from Mrs. Ione Hansen and her son Richard, of three hotel registers from the old East San Gabriel Hotel. These registers cover the period from 1887 through 1898 and the names therein read like a "Who's Who" of that time. A lovely old melodeon, donated by Mr. Winston S. Cruse of Culver City, enhances the charm of the Queen Anne Cottage.

Sunday attendance at the Arboretum is increasing, with very satisfactory comments by visitors on the progress at the Arboretum as well as on the manner in which tours are handled. This increase, no doubt, is due in large part to the Motorama T V publicity, combined with other T V shows during the past two months. One of note was the appearance of Mr. George Spalding on Norvell Gillespie's show on Feb. 25th.

A simple but impressive Arbor Day ceremony was held at the Arboretum on March 7th. This ceremony was conducted by Girl Scout Troop No. 62 of Arcadia. It climaxed a special course given at the Arboretum under Dr. Louis Martin's direction, for which the Troop members will receive their tree badges. Mr. Ralph Cornell, Vice-President of the Board of Trustees, accepted a gift of 18 purple leaf plum trees from the Los Angeles Garden Club for greater beauty of the Herb Garden. Mr. Cornell also accepted on behalf of the Foundation, a specimen magnolia tree from the Las Jardineras Garden Club to augment the magnolia collection started in 1952. In return the Foundation presented to the Girl Scouts, trees of Eucalyptus Gunnii which will be planted at the Arcadia Elementary schools in observance of Arbor Day. This Eucalyptus is a tree introduction from Australia. Supervisor John Anson Ford was the speaker of the day and gave a very inspiring talk on his subject, "The Significance of Arbor Day in Los Angeles County."

The bird feeding station is one of the most active spots on the Arboretum grounds, bringing new species of birds to make their homes here and to "live happily ever afterward."

The Annual Meeting of the members of the Foundation will be held at the Arboretum on the afternoon of May 15th, so put this date on your calendar. You will receive a later notice of time and program. Members entitled to receive plants at the Annual Meeting will find a description of the plants in the April issue of LASCA LEAVES. In order to receive your plants, be sure that you bring your membership card.

An order has been placed for colored post cards of four different views of the Arboretum. These cards will be sold on the grounds and also by Garden Clubs. It is hoped that the cards will be received by May 15th for your viewing.

Don't forget to support your Arboretum in securing new members.

SEE YOUR ARBORETUM ON JOE LITTLEFIELD'S T V
SHOW, CHANNEL 5, 12:30 PM, APRIL 8th

HAPPY EASTER TO ALL

LASCA NEWS

A periodic report from the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum to the members of the California Arboretum Foundation, Inc. Arcadia, California

F L A S H

April 3, 1956

Dear Arboretum Member:

The California State Budget Bill which provides $102,080.00 to restore the Hugo Reid Adobe and the Carriage House at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum has just been sent to Governor Knight for final approval. There is a possibility that in reviewing the budget Governor Knight might delete various portions including Item 401(n) which provides these funds for restoration.

For this reason you are asked to write immediately to Governor Knight, State Capitol Building, Sacramento, California, urging that Item 401(n) be retained in the budget to preserve our heritage of history.

Your support of this cause is appreciated.

Sincerely,

F. W. Went

F. W. Went, President,
CALIFORNIA ARBORETUM FOUNDATION, INC.

DESCRIPTION OF PLANTS TO BE GIVEN TO MEMBERS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING - MAY 15, 1956.

(These plants are not yet available in most nurseries.)

DODONAEA VISCOSA, VAR. PURPUREA (Purple-Hop-Bush)

Sapindaceae - Tropics & Subtropics - shrub or small tree to 15 feet. Flowers greenish, inconspicuous and insignificant. No special requirements as to soil. A hardy, drought resistant tree with attractive foliage. A lovely bronze-purple-leaved variety. Likes sun or semi-shade; no experience in shade.

CHAMAEDOREA ELEGANS (Palm)

Palmaceae - Mexico - Stem of about 4 feet, leaves pinnate 2-4 feet long, gracefully pendant, bright dark green, unarmed. These palms grow under the shade of tall trees in their native habitat, never in exposed conditions. This is a fine palm for container growing.

FELICIA AMELLOIDES 'SANTA ANITA' (Blue Daisy) (Blue Marguerite)

Compositae - South Africa - Perennial to 1-2 feet, bushy, flower heads blue. Makes a pretty pot-plant or can be planted out for late spring or early summer bloom. Prefers sun. This is a new plant created as a result of Colchicine treatment by Mr. Quinn Buck, Arboretum Propagator.

EACH MEMBER WILL BE GIVEN ONE OF EACH OF THE ABOVE PLANTS.

AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

GAMOLEPIS CHRYSANTHEMOIDES

Compositae - South Africa - Perennial shrub to 5 feet, bushy, flowers bright yellow. Requires good drainage and likes sun. Prune as you do your fuchsias, by pinching tip growth early.

JACARANDA ACUTIFOLIA (PINK FORM)

Bignoniaceae - Brazil - Tree to 50 feet. This seed was given to the Arboretum by Doctor Ayres who obtained it from a friend, Doctor Schultz of Brazil. Likes sun and good drainage; frost sensitivity not known but probably tender. Remember seedlings of color forms may not come true to color.

LASCA NEWS

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MEMBERS OF CALIFORNIA ARBORETUM FOUNDATION, INC.

ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO

THE

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

OF

CALIFORNIA ARBORETUM FOUNDATION, INC.

AT

LOS ANGELES STATE AND COUNTY ARBORETUM
301 NORTH BALDWIN AVENUE
ARCADIA, CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1956

PROGRAM:

3:00 P.M. - Tour of the grounds and new developments at the Arboretum.

4:00 P.M. - Annual Meeting in the Historical Preserve.

5:00 P.M. - Annual distribution of plant materials to members. Members should attend the annual meeting in order to share in plant distribution.

PLEASE NOTE: Park your cars in the forecourt parking area and enter at the main entrance at 301 No. Baldwin Ave. Grounds transportation will be provided for the tour.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD WILL BE NEEDED TO ENTER THE GROUNDS

FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING AND PLANT DISTRIBUTION

LASCA NEWS

A periodic report from the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum to the members of the California Arboretum Foundation, Inc.
Arcadia, California

MAY 21 1956

MAY 2X 1956

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Meeting date of the Historical Committee is changed from May 16th, 3 P.M. to May 22nd, 3 P.M., 1956

"Dr. Aubrey Neasham (Historian of the Division of Beaches and Parks, State of California) will be our honored guest and speaker at a special, most important meeting near the Hugo Reid adobe on the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum grounds. Refreshments to follow."

Signed

Co-chairmen

Mrs. Richard Y. Dakin
Mrs. John R. Mage

LASCA NEWS

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August, 1956

The warm August vacation days offer a fine time to visit your Arboretum, to enjoy the pleasant tour of the grounds in the jeep train, to relish the cool breeze in the shade of the great old trees, to watch the bird life around the tranquil lagoon, to travel through the intriguing jungle, scene of many movie and TV locations, and to keep in touch with all the interesting new projects and developments. This is an excellent way to give an out-of-town visitor an insight into the wonderful ways of nature in our California climate. Each first and third Sunday in the month there are bird walks at 9:30, and at 10:30 each Sunday morning the jeep trains start on their rounds. Groups of ten or more persons may call the office for reservations for week-day tours, except on Monday.

Between the opening date of January 9, 1955, and December 31, 1955, the total attendance at the Arboretum was 47,007. In the first half of 1956 there have been 31,600 visitors. This greatly increased rate of attendance is indicative of the interest the public feels in the very fine progress being made at the Arboretum.

Notable among the more distant visitors in the past six months have been: Mr. F. Lewin, Soil Cons. Div., Israel; Mr. M. ShaKeed, Tahreer Province, Egypt; Mr. Goichi Matsubara, Yokohama City, Japan; Dr. Bryan J. Grieve, Botany Dept., Univ. of Western Australia; Miss Nell Horner, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, Mo.; Mr. Brian O'Mulligan, Univ. of Washington Arboretum, Seattle; Mr. Paul C. Hutchinson, Botanical Garden, Univ. of California, Berkeley; Mr. L. D. Bounet, U.S. Forest Service, San Francisco; Dr. Russell J. Seibert, former Arboretum Director, and Mrs. Seibert, now of Longwood Gardens.

Mr. Manfred Meyberg and Mr. Stuart O'Melveny, two men of outstanding note in horticultural achievement, have accepted appointment to the Board of Trustees of the Arboretum Foundation. Mr. Meyberg has been associated with Germain's for many years. He was one of the organizers of the California International Flower Show and has had wide recognition for his leadership in serving as its general chairman for the past four years. Mr. O'Melveney is President of the Title Insurance & Trust Company, and has been a prominent figure in civic and horticultural development in this area. He is a member of the Men's Garden Club and has served on the Executive Committee of this group. It is a privilege to welcome and to draw upon the knowledge and judgment of these two new members of the Board.

Interest in the program of the Education division initiated by Dr. Stewart and ably supervised by Dr. Louis Martin, a staff member, has far exceeded expectation. The experimental classes so far have been the Girl Scout and Boy Scout studies for Merit badges, the amateur sketching class,

the bird walks, and the Herb classes. The Southern California Unit of the Herb Society of America, a Foundation member, deserves special thanks for its enthusiastic and thoroughly-organized response in the preparation and conduct of six weekly classes in the use and love of herbs. Mrs. Harold Wilcox serves as Chairman of this group. Miss Ruth Randall and Mrs. Sydney Briggs are Co-Chairmen of the Arboretum Garden Committee, and Miss Marguerite Dumblad, Chairman of the Herb Unit's Educational classes. With the permission of the Unit, a reprint of material used in one of the classes is enclosed. The Unit's recipe booklet will be available for a small fee, through the Foundation, after the Administration offices are moved into the new building. All classes are free, and information and reservations for them may be secured by calling Dr. Martin at Douglas 7-3444.

The life blood of the Foundation is its very loyal membership. In order to sponsor and develop several important projects, the Foundation will begin a new-member drive this Fall, for which the cooperation of each present member in securing one or more new members will be a goal. An application blank for this use is enclosed. As those who have joined the Foundation are already aware, the satisfaction and rewards of helping to create and expand this great community plan for present and future generations can be rich and lasting. Some of the objectives of the Foundation for the Arboretum are:

1. A five-unit orchid house, one unit of which is now under construction through funds provided by a generous benefactor.

2. Acquisition of rare horticultural books for the Library.

3. Foundation-owned jeep trains to replace those now rented by the Foundation.

4. A Fragrance Garden for the blind, adjacent to the Medicinal Garden.

The dedication of the Gatehouse and Administration Building has been postponed until some time later in the Fall, due to unforeseen problems in the completion of the buildings.

An increase in the size and content of the quarterly LASCA LEAVES results in higher costs in its publication. This necessitates the increased price of single extra copies to members of the Foundation to $1.00 per copy, and to non-members $1.25.

Post cards of Arboretum scenes, in beautiful color photography by Trustee Ralph D. Cornell, are now available for sale through the Foundation. Views of the restored Queen Anne Cottage, the Jungle, the Coach Barn, and Lasca Lagoon, sold as a set of four post cards for 25¢, are being enthusiastically purchased by the public.

LASCA HERB CLASS

18 July 1956

Mrs. Dorothy Briggs is a charter member of the Southern California Unit of The Herb Society of America. Her principal interests are California Natives and the History and Legends of Herbs.

Something of interest about the growing, harvesting and storing of:

EIGHT BASIC HERBS FOR THE BEGINNER

1. Thyme - English or Garden Thyme (Thymus Vulgaris)
   Name: From a Greek word meaning SACRIFICE. It was used in sacrifices.

2. Sage - Garden Sage (Salvia Officinalis)
   Name: From the Latin, meaning SAVED. Eaten it was said to increase wisdom.

3. Marjoram - Sweet Knotted (Oraginum Hortensis)
   Wild Oregano (" Vulgare)
   Pot (" Marjorana)
   Name: From the Greek, meaning MOUNTAIN BRIGHTNESS or BEAUTY

4. Basil - Sweet (Ocimum Basilicum)
   Name: From the Greek, meaning ROYAL or KING

5. Rosemary - (Rosmarinus Officinalis)
   Name: From the Greek, meaning DEW OF THE SEA

6. Savory - Summer (Saturea Hortensis)
   Winter (" Montana)
   Name: Speaks for itself, means TASTY

7. Parsley - (Petroselinum Satinum)

8. Chives - (Allium Schoenoprasum)

Growing requirements for all eight of these herbs are basically the same: Warmth, dryness and light soil. All need more water in the Southwest than in the East or Middle West. Most are natives of the Mediterranean countries. All need some light Nitrogenous fertilizing, and all are hardy in this climate.

When cut, all must be picked over carefully, dried thoroughly, kept in covered jars, and stored in dry places to retain flavor. If cut just before flowers open when the oils are most potent, many will grow up to a second harvest.

Hints for use: BASIL with Tomatoes. SAGE with Pork. SAVORY with Veal or Peas. MARJORAM with Lamb or Fish. ROSEMARY with Beef Stew. THYME with Carrots or Onions. CHIVES and PARSLEY with almost everything.

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CALIFORNIA ARBORETUM FOUNDATION, INC.

NEW MEMBERS

April 1955 to October 1956

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Aboucher, Jeanne
Benson, H. H.
Blesener, Clara
Bullard, Richard E.
Hagan, Edward A.
Hubbell, Ralph G. Jr.
Hinman, Gail H.
Kingman, Mrs. Howard
Madsen, Dr. Leo J.
Popenoe, Dr. & Mrs. Herbert
Raymond, Mrs. John C.
Raymond, Ruth
Reiterman, Ethel
Short, Miss Irene T.
Siebold, Mrs. Mary F.
Smith, Mrs. Gordon Knight
Truesdail, Dr. and Mrs. Roger W.
Westchester Women's Club-
Garden Section

(18)

ASSOCIATE EDUCATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Wister, John C.

(1)

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Adams, Mr. and Mrs. C. H.
Andrews, R. D.
Arcadia Escrow Company
Armstrong, Mrs. Evangeline B.
Athletic & Recreational Turfgrass Assoc.
Baldwin, L. W.
Barry, David Jr.
Baugh, Mrs. William E.
Beittel, Wilbur G.
Joy Belden & Helen Belford
Behnke, Mrs. Herbert
Boadway, Walter M.
Boele, Engle A.
Bong, Ruth L.
Brown, Mrs. Marcia C.
Bullock, Mrs. G. A.
Baldwin, Eugene F.
California National Fuchsia Society-
Gardena Branch
Cantelo, Mr. & Mrs. George W.
Carribean Gardens
Chadwick, John W.
Crozier, Mrs. Harold
Dunn, Mrs. Harold B.
Duval, Eugene
El Segundo Women's Club
Ellis, Mr. & Mrs. H. A.
Evans, Morgan
Keller, Mrs. Robert A.
Fischer, Mr. Warren C.
Foss, Mrs. W. W.
Foster, Thomas Bell
French, R. E.
Gaard, Kermit A.
Gardeners' Assoc. of Pasadena
Garland, Mr. John Jewett
Garland, Mrs. John J.
Givens, William W.
Glass, Richard
Guild, Mrs. Eastham
Haagen-Smit, Arie J.
Hammond, Mrs. Paul B.
Hansen, Mrs. Carl
Hebel, Dr. Herbert D.
Heller, Walter S.
Henning, Mrs. C. W.
History & Landmarks Section-
20th Century Club
Hodgins, Mrs. E. P.
Holland, Rowland F.
Huntsman, Dr. Joseph R.
Hurst, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Jr.
Husband, Walter J.
Kennedy, Mrs. E. J.
Lawndale, Garden Club
Lawson, Dr. Homer C.
Los Angeles Floral Study Club
Escondido Garden Club

(58)

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP - Continued

Leetham, Julius A.
Luckie, Mrs. J. B.
Markowitz, Mrs. Samuel
Meier, Herbert J.
Meyer, R. Wilton
McLain, Fred F.
Nilsen, Mrs. Clara C.
Phillips, W. Ross
Poag, Mr. John
Portanova, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph
Pugh, C. S.
Pyle, Lance & Schlinger
Rees, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin
Rees, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel
Rick, Edward
Roberts, Mrs. Ruth M.
Robinson, W. W.
Rosemeade Garden Club
Sera, Mr. Tak
Siegel, Dr. Daniel C.
Sierra Madre Garden Club
Simpson, Colin C.
Smith, Frank H.
Soto, Henry C.
Stauffer Chemical Co.
Stewart, Mrs. William S.
Spalding, George H.
Stanton, John B. Jr.
Taylor, James F.
Tuesday Afternoon Club-Garden Section
Thursday Morning Garden Club
Torres, Victor P.
Towne, Dr. and Mrs. R. E.
Urbec, Dr. and Mrs. John
Van Court, Mrs. Albert E.
von Klein Smid, Rufus B.
Wandell, Mrs. Lee A.
Walker, Allene M.
Walker, Mrs. Irving M.
Weissich, Paul R.
Wilkes, Thomas W.
Willhite, Mildred E.
Willis, Mrs. Cornelius
Wright, James J.
Wright, Mrs. Howard W.
Year Around-All Around Garden Club
Montebello Woman's Club-Garden Section

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTING MEMBERSHIP

Boyd, Edward John
Boyd, Dr. Edward John
Brentwood Garden Club
Cook, William M.
Hines Nursery
Huntsman-Trout, Edward
Knudsen, Mrs. T. R.
Knott, Walter
Laguna Beach Garden Club
Meyberg, Mrs. Manfred
Moore, Mrs. Anson C.
O'Melveny, Stuart
Orange County Bird Club
Palmer, Mr. Gordon
Payne, Theodore
Riverside Garden Club
Rogers, Raymond
Stone, Robert G.
Ventura County Garden Club
Strub, Robert P.

ANNUAL SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP

Eaton, Mr. Charles
Wopschall Paint Mart

ANNUAL SPONSOR MEMBERSHIP

McFie, Milbank

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Freed, Arthur

DEC 10 1956

LASCA NEWS

A periodic report from the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum to the members of the California Arboretum Foundation, Inc. Arcadia, California

December, 1956

CHRISTMAS: 'Tis the season for kindling the fire of hospitality in the hall, the genial fire of charity in the heart.

--Washington Irving

Amidst all the events of the holiday season comes the Important date of December 14, when you are invited to the dedication of the LASCA new Administration Building and Gatehouse. The ceremonies will open at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon, December 14. The beautiful gift clump of Phoenix reclinata palms near the front steps of the new building will furnish the inspiring setting for the speakers platform, and strolling musicians in their Spanish costumes will carry out the Ranchos traditional atmosphere of gaiety and goodwill. Representatives of organizations sponsoring the Arboretum will be introduced, and names of winning landscape architects in the Demonstration Home Garden Design competition will be announced. The well-known artist, Millard Sheetz, Director of the Los Angeles County Art Institute, will be chief speaker. Inspection of the new buildings and a tour of the grounds will follow the program.

On Saturday, December 15, 1-4 P.M., further observance of the dedication will feature the turf grass plots at the Arboretum, to demonstrate various turf cultural practices for the winter season. The demonstration will include suitable methods of fertilization and seeding, displays of lawn seeds, and winter color of Zoysias, Bermudas and St. Augustine grasses.

A Christmas Posada, typifying the old Spanish celebration of Yuletide, will conclude the ceremonies on Sunday, December 16, at 4:30. All Foundation members and their friends are invited to enjoy the local Childrens Theatre in its presentation of the Posada and Fiesta of the Pinata. Transportation will be provided at the gatehouse.

The Queen Anne Cottage, festively decorated in the spirit of an 1890 Christmas, will provide a highlight of the tours throughout December. The Cottage is featured as the "House o' Yesteryear" in the Holiday Home Tours of the Arcadia Community Hospital Auxiliary.

Dr. Fritz Went, Foundation President, offers the Christmas message below:

> "Upon my recent return from a visit to the East and to Europe, I was struck, as so many times before, by the beauty of Southern California. When trying to analyse my feelings of happiness there was more than the mere fact of returning home. There was the beauty of so many home gardens, and the attractiveness of our tree-lined streets. In this respect our climate which makes gardens flower the year around is our ally. But all this adds up to beauty only because the plant importer, the grower, the landscape architect, the homeowner and the park superintendent have pooled their efforts. It is in the center of these efforts that the Arboretum wants to contribute its own share to the beautification of Southern California by helping all these people so we always will look forward to happier and merrier Christmases and New Years in Southern California."

Convincing proof of appreciation of the natural and developed beauties of Southern California is seen in this year's remarkable increase in Arboretum visitors from near and far. On November 14 the Arboretum was pleased to welcome a group of twenty educators representing India, Finland, Germany, Pakistan, Malaya, Egypt and Mexico, making a colorful tour in native dress. In this season of giving and receiving, the Foundation would like to express its feeling of deep gratitude for all the confidence and support of each member and friend who has helped to make 1956 its most successful and productive year, and to wish you

A MERRY CHRISTMAS - A HAPPY NEW YEAR!